



Take a closer look . . .

Pastor backs funding for TGen Translational Genomics Research Institute

Federal dollars are used throughout the nation to fund important research projects. As a member of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, I frequently seek opportunities to fund and promote important medical and scientific research projects right here in Phoenix. One such organization I have supported is the Translational Genomics Research Institute, or TGen.

The type of medical research being done by organizations such as TGen benefits all mankind. Because of the expense and the magnitude of this advanced research, pri-

vate enterprise is generally unwilling to assume the responsibility for the sizable financial investment. Therefore, when I was initially approached by local Arizona leaders to support federal funding to bring TGen to Phoenix, I did not hesitate.

TGen is the concept of Dr. Jeffrey Trent, an internationally recognized scientist who envisioned an institute where many of the world's leading scientists would turn breakthroughs in genetic research into medical advances benefitting patients and their families.

Through the collaborative efforts of leaders in science, medicine, government and business, TGen was founded in July 2002 and its landmark research facility was dedicated near downtown Phoenix in March 2005.

From a federal viewpoint, TGen is not only an asset to the Valley because of the healthcare advances its research will provide for Arizonans, but it will diversify our economy with high-tech jobs and collaborate with schools and universities to provide educational opportunities in science, medicine and genetics to students of all ages.

I continue to work with the dedicated people at TGen to help fund equipment and research needs. I am confident Arizonans will benefit greatly from its presence here.



This six-story, \$46 million building houses TGen at Fifth and Fillmore streets and forms the cornerstone of the Phoenix Biomedical Center, a bioscience and medical research campus development in downtown Phoenix. The biomedical campus is an integral piece of the statewide bioscience initiative and is expected to have a significant impact on biomedical discoveries, the quality of health care for Arizona's residents and the expansion and diversification of the state's economy.

Pastor discusses juvenile diabetes research legislation

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met with 11-year-old constituent Juliet Walter, of Glendale, her mother and others to discuss federal funding for Type I Diabetes research.

The meeting with the representatives from Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International focused on the need for increased funding for research. Pastor recently signed onto a letter to the Secretary of Health and Human Services highlighting new advancements in medical technology for diabetes patients.

Type I Diabetes is a disease which strikes in childhood, adolescence or adulthood, but lasts a lifetime.

Rep. Ed Pastor recently discussed federal funding for diabetes research with Gary Pederson, president of the Desert Southwest Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International, Katherine Walter, Juliet Walter, and Tom Royden, a board member of the organization's local chapter.



How to contact Congressman Pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor's office is in your city to serve your needs.

Please keep this information handy to contact his offices for assistance.

Web Page (use site for electronic mail): <http://www.house.gov/pastor>

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I ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND MAIL ONLY TO MY PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE.

Due to the threat of anthrax-contaminated mail delivered to the Capitol complex, all incoming letters to my Washington Office must be irradiated before delivery, resulting in a delay of at least three weeks. Feel free to send mail instead to my Phoenix District Office. Thanks.

✂ *Clip and save* ✂

Congressman

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

Meeting local needs

June 2006

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CONGRESSMAN

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

Meeting local needs

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Fourth Congressional District - Arizona

June 2006

Empowered residents, businesses build stronger communities

Dear Fellow Arizonans,

I was recently energized during a visit in the district to see the organized activities by residents and neighborhood groups who want to revitalize their communities and improve the places where they live, work and raise families. Organizations such as the Maryvale Revitalization Corporation in west Phoenix make significant improvements to the quality of life in their neighborhoods as they collaborate with businesses, government and other agencies to promote their communities and help their youth.

Such activities are important because residents are the best voice for their communities and they benefit most from promoting them. In addition, in these times when we see the majority in Congress taking steps to significantly reduce funding for critical programs that help improve communities, it behooves us to come to the forefront and collaborate efforts.

Back in Washington, I am working with colleagues to stop the Administration's proposal to cut programs that assist neighborhoods and individuals. For example, the President has proposed cutting \$4.3 million, or 25 percent, of Phoenix's funding for the Community Development Block Grant program. CDBG provides federal grants to communities and allows local residents to decide how to use the money to improve the community. Federal support for energy assistance, low-income housing and Head Start also are threatened.



U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor, far right, recently met with businessman Scott McNeill and Maryvale Revitalization Corporation Executive Director Dwight Amery to discuss federally-funded projects that will benefit the Maryvale area in west Phoenix.

I hope you will take time to read about these issues and other district updates in this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress

Putting America's families first

When it comes to federal funding, billions are appropriated each year for local programs that assist neighborhoods and individuals, and provide essential services to Americans. As your Congressman, it is my role to put Arizona's families

"Phoenix is the nation's fifth-largest city but only ranks 17th in federal support."

above partisan concerns and make sure my district receives its fair portion of federal support.

But while many federal programs offer assistance to our neediest residents, the Administration has proposed to cut fund-

ing to these programs, which include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, energy assistance, low-income housing and Head Start.

For example, Phoenix's CDBG grant, which in the past has funded improvements for small businesses and neighborhoods, and has provided assistance to domestic violence shelters and youth facilities would be cut by about 25 percent, or \$4.3 million, under the proposal. This is in light of the fact that Phoenix is the nation's fifth-largest city but only ranks 17th in federal support.

The president's budget also has proposed to cut senior housing programs by 26 percent, and public housing by eight percent. Head Start, which



Rep. Pastor discusses federal programs helping the Maryvale area with Maricopa County Juvenile Presiding Judge Emmet J. Ronan.

has already been cut, would receive further and deeper cuts.

Energy assistance also would lose funding.

I plan to continue drawing attention to this critical issue to maintain adequate funding levels for these programs as we debate this proposal in Congress.

Legal residents apply for U.S. citizenship

In his efforts to continue to encourage permanent legal residents to apply for U.S. citizenship, Rep. Ed Pastor held a Citizenship Day in his district recently. About 160 people received assistance in filling out their citizenship applications from more than 50 trained volunteers

At Rep. Pastor's Citizenship Day, assistance was provided to legal residents in filling out their applications for U.S. citizenship. In the photo on the far right, Rep. Pastor discusses the naturalization process with Yolanda Vazquez, a professor at the University of Las Vegas, who will use the workshop as a model for a similar effort in Nevada.

who regularly provide complimentary assistance in the community. The trained volunteers ease the application process by assisting participants with their applications and answering questions. Assistance is provided at no charge,

but there is a \$400 fee due to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service with every application.



Tax package helps the wealthy, adds to long-term deficit

Rep. Ed Pastor recently voted against extending the President's tax cut package, H.R. 4297, because it benefits the wealthy while adding to the long-term deficit. The bill does little for working class families, Pastor said.

"This package overwhelmingly benefits the wealthy at the same time that programs for the poor are being cut by Congress," Pastor said. "I opposed this tax package. I have opposed cutting back programs for our neediest Americans. And I will continue to put America's working families first."

Furthermore, the \$70 billion tax cut package was passed in light of a budget deficit that is still expected to exceed \$300 billion this year, Pastor said.

This package is unwise and unfair, he added.

Your savings under the tax plan

Income in 2005 dollars	Average tax saving
\$10,000-\$20,000	\$2
\$20,000-\$30,000	9
\$30,000-\$40,000	16
\$40,000-\$50,000	46
\$50,000-\$75,000	110
\$75,000-\$100,000	403
\$100,000-\$200,000	1,388
\$200,000-\$500,000	4,499
\$500,000-1 million	5,562
More than \$1 million	41,977

Source: Tax Policy Center

Congressman visits staff, patients at Phoenix Memorial Hospital

Congressman Ed Pastor recently visited Phoenix Memorial Hospital and met with administrators, staff and patients to learn about improvements at the facility and discuss health care legislation that affects hospitals and patients.

Pastor also had a chance to watch an angioplasty procedure.

Pastor said he supports measures in Congress that would expand the number of Americans with affordable health care.

"Whether they lose their job, change jobs, get sick or just grow old, every American should have access to affordable health care," Pastor said.



Rep. Ed Pastor recently visited Phoenix Memorial Hospital and met with staff to discuss health care legislation in Congress and how the hospital is meeting constituents' health care needs.

Internship experience discussed



Rep. Pastor's District Director Ron Piceno, on the left, met with Darren LaFemina, a student at Arizona State University, to discuss his educational experience as an intern during the spring semester in Congressman Pastor's Phoenix District Office.

New agricultural research facility opens

Congressman Pastor recently participated in the dedication of the new U.S. Arid-Land Agricultural Research Center in Maricopa, Ariz.

Pastor, who was influential in obtaining federal funding to relocate the facility, said it will continue to conduct vital cotton and water research for the agricultural industry in the Southwest.

The new state-of-the-art facility will help increase the efficiency and quality of the nation's food and fiber supply, Pastor said. It replaces the existing Phoenix laboratories with a 98,000 square-foot facility on a 20-acre site located in Maricopa. It houses staff of 110 personnel from the U.S. Water Conservation Laboratory and the Western Cotton Research Laboratory.

The mission of the U.S. Arid Land Agricultural Research Center is to develop sustainable agricultural systems, protect natural resources and support rural communities in arid and semi-arid regions through interdisciplinary research. Research topics include crop management, integrated pest management, irrigation technology, remote sensing, water reuse, crop breeding and physiology and global climate change.



Congressman Ed Pastor discussed how the new U.S. Arid-Land Agricultural Research Center in Maricopa, Ariz., will help increase the efficiency and quality of the nation's food and fiber supply during the building's recent dedication. Arizona Congressman Jim Kolbe is seated behind Pastor. Both congressmen were influential in obtaining federal funding to relocate and construct a new facility.

Rep. Pastor discusses diversity, immigration issues with Arizona Asians

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met with members of the Arizona Asian American Association and spoke about the importance of working together on issues of diversity and uniting communities to address common concerns such as immigration reform legislation. He met with the Asian community during an event at Heritage Park in downtown Phoenix.



Rep. Ed Pastor discussed diversity and immigration reform legislation with Arif Kazmi, president of the Arizona Asian American Association, and Dr. Mernoy E. Harrison Jr., vice president and provost of the ASU Downtown Phoenix Campus.